5 ABSTRACT

Malaria is the most severe tropical parasitic disease that has caused millions of deaths in many countries. The threat of growing drug-resistant parasites requires development of new antimalarial drugs to overcome the emergence of resistance and to control the disease. Febrifugine is the active principle extracted from the Chinese herb Chang Shan (Dichroa febrifuga Lour) that has been used to treat malaria for more than two thousand years. Studies on the efficacy have been hindered due to the emetic effects of febrifugine. The present invention discloses febrifugine, halofuginone and febrifugine derivatives for use as antimalarial agents without the severe emetic effects observed in direct herbal use.